

REMARKS

Claims 1-35 are pending herein. Claims 2-35 are withdrawn.

I. The anticipation rejections based on Hasebe et al. (US 2004/0082598).

The USPTO respectfully rejects Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Hasebe et al. (US 2004/0082598) ("Hasebe").

Applicants submit herewith English translations of the two Japanese priority documents, JP2002-349637 filed on December 2, 2002 and JP2002-359316 filed on December 11, 2002.

As discussed by telephone with the Examiner, the effective date as a reference for US 2004/0080598, Hasabe, is October 14, 2003. Therefore, the reference should be removed.

II. Conclusion.

Reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims is respectfully requested.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Please contact the undersigned for any reason. Applicants seek to cooperate with the Examiner including via telephone if convenient for the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Daniel P. Lent
Registration No. 44,867

Date: May 22, 2006
CANTOR COLBURN LLP
55 Griffin Road South
Bloomfield, CT 06002
Telephone (860) 286-2929
Facsimile (860) 286-0115
Customer No.: 23413